2/27/84-CSB (Vol III)-770/M dated the 6th September, 1990 by the former Minister of Environment and Forests,

(b) whether legal opinion in the matter has been sought by Government, if so, details of the opinion, and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. According to the legal opinion obtained, the benefit of the judgements of the Supreme Court and Central Administrative Tribunal, Calcutta, Bench, should be given to the existing Scientific Assistants, and not to those who have already retired or been promoted and the pay scale of Rs. 550—900 (Pre-revised) allocated to the existing Scientific Assistants will be personal to them

(c) The Government have already issued necessary orders for allocation of pay scale of Rs. 550—900 Per-revised) to the existing Scientific Assistants

Memorandum from All India Postal Employees Union, Sundergarh Divisional Branch, Orissa

674. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether a Memorandum dated 10th September, 1990 has been received by him from All India Postal Employees' Union, Postmen, Group 'D' and EDAs, Sundergarh Divisional Branch, Rourkela, Orissa,

(b) if so, what are the details of the Memorandum, and

(c) the nature of concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken on each of the problems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAI PRAKASH) (a) Does not seem to have been received.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Attacks on Hindu Temples in Pakistan

675. SHRI JITENDRABHAI LABHSHANKER BHATT Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a crowd, angry at the alleged desecration of a mosque in India, attacked Hindu temples and shops in the Pakistani city of Sukkur in November, 1990 and set fire to cars;

(b) whether any protest has been lodged with the Government of Pakistan in this regard,

(c) if so, what is Pakistan's response thereto, and

(d) if the reply to part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) Government have seen media reports to this effect.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Government are of the view that in terms of the Shimla Agreement neither India nor Pakistan should interfere in each other's internal affairs.

India's initiative on resolution of the Gulf Crisis

676 SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any initiative as a leading member of NAM to resolve the Gulf crisis; and